

Agency Proposed Budget								
Budget Item	Base Budget Fiscal 2002	PL Base Adjustment Fiscal 2004	New Proposals Fiscal 2004	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 2004	PL Base Adjustment Fiscal 2005	New Proposals Fiscal 2005	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 2005	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 04-05
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Expenses	3,776	11,224	0	15,000	11,224	0	15,000	30,000
Total Costs	\$3,776	\$11,224	\$0	\$15,000	\$11,224	\$0	\$15,000	\$30,000
State/Other Special	3,776	11,224	0	15,000	11,224	0	15,000	30,000
Total Funds	\$3,776	\$11,224	\$0	\$15,000	\$11,224	\$0	\$15,000	\$30,000

Agency Description

The Montana Chiropractic Legal Panel reviews potential and actual malpractice claims against chiropractors to confirm reasonable inference of malpractice. The panel provides fair disposition of well-founded claims. The panel consists of three chiropractors and three attorneys, who are required to review every potential or actual claim. The Montana Chiropractic Association appoints a director to manage the panel.

Agency Discussion

Chiropractic Legal Panel Major Budget Highlights
○ Funding is requested at the level authorized in previous biennia

Funding

The following table shows program funding, by source, for the base year and for the 2005 biennium as recommended by the Governor.

Program Funding Table Legal Panel Operations						
Program Funding	Base Fiscal 2002	% of Base Fiscal 2002	Budget Fiscal 2004	% of Budget Fiscal 2004	Budget Fiscal 2005	% of Budget Fiscal 2005
02182 Chiropractic Assessments	<u>\$ 3,776</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Grand Total	<u>\$ 3,776</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

The Montana Chiropractic Legal Panel is funded with state special revenue funds derived from annual assessments. This amount is set annually by the director and is assessed equally to all chiropractors. Revenue collected in fiscal 2002 was \$13,650 and the fund balance is about \$43,800.

Biennium Budget Comparison								
Budget Item	Present Law Fiscal 2004	New Proposals Fiscal 2004	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 2004	Present Law Fiscal 2005	New Proposals Fiscal 2005	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 2005	Total Biennium Fiscal 02-03	Total Exec. Budget Fiscal 04-05
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Expenses	15,000	0	15,000	15,000	0	15,000	18,776	30,000
Total Costs	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$18,776	\$30,000
State/Other Special	15,000	0	15,000	15,000	0	15,000	18,776	30,000
Total Funds	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$18,776	\$30,000

Present Law Adjustments										
-----Fiscal 2004-----						-----Fiscal 2005-----				
	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
Inflation/Deflation					2					2
Fixed Costs					247					250
Total Statewide Present Law Adjustments					\$249	\$252				
DP 1 - Operating Adjustment	0.00	0	10,975	0	10,975	0.00	0	10,972	0	10,972
Total Other Present Law Adjustments					\$10,975	\$10,972				
	0.00	\$0	\$10,975	\$0	\$10,975	0.00	\$0	\$10,972	\$0	\$10,972
Grand Total All Present Law Adjustments					\$11,224	\$11,224				

Executive Present Law Adjustments

The "Present Law Adjustments" table shows the primary changes to the adjusted base budget made by the legislature. "Statewide Present Law" adjustments are standard categories of adjustments made to all agencies. Legislative decisions on these items were applied globally to all agencies. The other numbered adjustments in the table correspond to the narrative descriptions.

DP 1 - Operating Adjustment - All panel functions are conducted through consulting and other professional services. The panel is requesting an increase for consulting and professional services, travel, and audit fees in anticipation of increased activity. Activity depends on the number of cases filed, which cannot always be predicted.

LFD COMMENT

This proposal requests funding at the fiscal 2003 appropriated level. Fiscal 2002 expenditures of \$3,776 are about 75 percent less than previous year expenditures.